



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,
EDITOR.

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EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Mr. W. T. Richardson, one of the proprietors of the Monte Blanco apiaries at Santa Barbara, Calif., called at this office last week. The apiaries consist of 1,500 colonies of bees, and was begun in 1880. They are sending honey by the carloads to Boston, New York, and Eastern cities.

Dr. Mason's address at the Tri-County Institute at Adrian, Mich., was very interesting. It took forty minutes, and was listened to with the closest attention. This was a three-day meeting, and the Doctor worked faithfully for the pursuit of bee-keeping. Bee-keepers should improve all such opportunities.

Silo and Silage is the name of a nice 25-cent pamphlet by Prof. A. J. Cook. It is written in the Professor's familiar chatty manner, and is well worth reading and studying, so as to make it of practical use. His preface reads thus:

I write this primer: first, because I have been asked to do so; secondly, because, from my experience, I deem the silo a tremendous advantage to any farmer, and I wish to influence the farmers to do that which will aid them, in the struggle for success, more than any other one thing. My silo has been a surprising success, and in this little brochure I shall tell in a plain, simple way how I grow the corn, build my silo, fill and cover it, and feed the silage. I shall not pretend that this is surely the best method in every respect, but I shall urge that it will all pay, and prove a success; for I have tried it at an immense profit. There ought to be one thousand silos built in Michigan, and ten thousand in the United States during the next year. I hope and trust that this little effort of mine may aid in bringing this about.

The Professor has proved by experience on the farm his every statement. We can supply it at the publisher's price.

California Honey Crop.—In their fourth annual report of the honey and beeswax crop of California for 1888, just issued, Messrs. Schacht, Lemcke & Steiner, of San Francisco, remark as follows:

A fair crop of honey has been gathered and marketed this season. The quality has also been up to the average, and the price has ruled high enough to be satisfactory to apiarists and dealers. This is as we anticipated in our report last year, and as far as present prospects can be read, the outlook for the next crop is equally good, although fears for a small crop are entertained.

As we have mentioned more than once in our annual reviews, it is very difficult to give a correct estimate of the California honey crop. Our reason for this is found in the fact, that no reliable, or other statistics of the article, are kept in the different counties and localities of the State, as there should be. Consequently we are compelled to rely wholly for this information on reports from our agents and correspondents, which is reliable as far as it goes, and on this authority our estimate of this season's crop is made. From the fifty or sixty thousand colonies in California, for the year 1888, there was marketed of extracted honey, 3,000,000 pounds, and of comb honey, 500,000 pounds, or a total of 3½ million pounds for the season.

This result compared with former seasons is favorable, as the following figures evidence: 1887, 1,300,000 lbs.; 1886, 5,000,000 lbs.; 1885, 1,250,000 lbs.; 1884, 9,000,000 lbs.

A great portion of this season's crop was shipped by steamer or rail, direct from the apiaries to San Francisco, as the following statistics show: extracted, 1,300,000 lbs.; of comb honey, 300,000 lbs., or a total of 1½ million pounds. This also compares favorably with the receipts of former years, viz: 1887, 1,300,000 lbs.; 1886, 2,500,000 lbs.; 1885, 2,000,000 lbs.; 1884, 3,600,000 lbs.; 1883, 1,400,000 lbs.; 1882, 1,000,000 lbs.

Since the first of this year the receipts have been 1,000 cases of extracted and 450 cases of comb, and for the remaining four or five months they will probably be light, as the interior supply is getting limited.

A better demand and higher price of the article, caused much larger shipments of it to be made to Europe this season than were made last year. They amounted by sailing vessel to Europe and other foreign countries 700,000 pounds, and by sail via New York, 175,000 pounds. The principal part of these shipments went direct to England; the balance to Germany. France did not import any from here during the year, but will probably soon become an importer.

Overland shipments including those for Europe, via New York, amounted to nearly one million pounds, while in 1887 they were 950,000 pounds; 1886, 2,000,000 pounds; and in 1885, 1,270,000 pounds.

These heavy and constantly increasing shipments, show that Europe is a large consumer of our honey; and that it is important to all concerned in the honey-trade, to do everything that can be reasonably done, to increase it, by taking great care in producing a fine article in all respects, and putting it up in good and strong packages. The quality and color should also be looked after by the apiarist, dealer and shipper.

The average price of extracted honey during the last season has been from 5½ to 6½ cents; for comb honey, 10 to 12½ cents per pound for one-pound sections, while the two-pound sections have been sold for less. Present quotations are 5½ to 6 cents per pound for extracted honey.

It is too early now to say what the crop of the coming year will be. Spring rains are necessary, and if we get them, there will be a good yield. We feel confident though, in saying that the outlook so far is good, that the coming season will probably not be behind the past one, although nothing certain can now be said.

Congress last week passed a resolution favoring unrestricted trade with Canada. Commissioners were appointed to prepare a plan for the assimilation of the import duties and internal revenue taxes of the two countries, and an equitable division of receipts in a commercial union. In its report on foreign affairs, it says:

Our commercial relations with Canada have recently awakened a deeper interest, and received a more thorough discussion than ever before. The tendency of public opinion is plainly toward the enlargement of trade between the two countries.

In Canada the movement has advanced from what a few years ago was an effort for partial reciprocity to a wide expression in favor of unrestricted intercourse and commercial union. The Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade of the leading cities of Canada, and more than fifty farmers' institutes and conventions have adopted resolutions declaring in favor of commercial union or unrestricted trade between the two countries.

The answer made by their opponents, and those most closely attached to English trade and English rule has been that the United States has given no indication that it would receive or even consider any proposal, however friendly in spirit, or however favorable to us in its terms it might be. Your committee believes that the power herein conferred upon the President can do no harm, that it will be wisely used, and will lead to beneficial results, promoting the independence, prosperity, and peace of the two great people.

The Bee Hive, in its March number just received, has quoted a part of an item from the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of Feb. 16, on page 99, concerning "a club agent down East," who had taken subscriptions for papers and then "lit out with the money." The *Bee Hive* says it would have been much better to have "given the absconder's name or town, than to cast reflections on the honesty of all Eastern club-agents." We intended no wrong. The dishonesty was recorded because, as we there stated, several of our subscribers had sent him money, and lost it. His name is J. K. Boak, but his address is now unknown to many who would like to know it. Perhaps it would have been better to have given the name before.

Frosted Grain is good for seed. Prof. Green, of the Minnesota State Agricultural College has completed his experiments to ascertain the value of frosted grain for seed. His report made on Feb. 25, shows that from 40 to 90 per cent. of the total amount planted will sprout and grow. He says that the experiments may be relied upon, and hereafter farmers may plant frosted grain with the assurance that it will grow, rather than run in debt for other seed. Oliver Dalrymple, the bonanza farmer of Dakota, and the largest wheat-grower in the Northwest, is inclined to believe that the experiment can safely be relied upon, and will test further on his 40,000-acre farm.

The Third Annual Fair of the Dakota Board of Agriculture will be held at Grand Forks, Dak., Sept. 17 to 21, 1889.

Basswood or Linden Honey.

On page 104 we stated that we hoped the controversy would there end, but as Mr. McKnight thinks he should be heard in reply, we admit one more article from each disputant, and then positively close the discussion in our columns. Mr. McKnight writes thus:

MR. EDITOR:—You have virtually put your foot down on any attempt at further controversy between Dr. Mason and myself, on the alleged superiority of Canadian linden honey over American linden honey. Under ordinary circumstances I should say you are right in doing so; but the Doctor, in his last article, goes entirely outside the question, and treats me so badly, that I ask your indulgence for a little space to reply, promising not to trouble you on the subject again.

I am free to admit that I often say things that would be better unsaid, nevertheless when speaking to the public, through the press or otherwise, I endeavor

To guard my words with jealous cares,
Least Boggles catch me unawares.

I have not forgotten to do so when writing on this subject, and have therefore nothing to retract. The "Circular" that furnishes so much delight to the Doctor, supplies him with no proof that I have at any time "misstated facts." Copious as are his extracts from it, he has failed to find one to support his contention. Somebody has added the Doctor's brain by furnishing him with this (more than two years old) "Bee-King Circular," the existence of which I had almost forgotten, as I have not seen one of them since I left London; nevertheless I acknowledge the fidelity of his quotations from it.

Since he got the Circular, he is wild with delight. He shakes it in my face, exclaiming: "Ha! my man, I have got you now! Did you not challenge me a year ago 'to name a solitary Canadian (apart from Mr. Pettit) who had made the statement that Canadian linden honey is better than the American article?' Here, sir, I have the proof that 'you're another,' and if you are, 'what must we think of the man who makes such a claim and then denies it.'"

Verily, the Doctor is bringing things to an unpleasant crisis; but let him "bide awee," and reflect, when he will find that his "Circular" evidence will not hold in court. I did say that Mr. Pettit made the claim, and I reply to the Doctor's query by assuring him that I do "throw all the responsibility of claiming superiority for Canadian linden honey on Mr. Pettit," and on Mr. Pettit alone—ignoring all responsibility of doing so myself, and I assert that the Doctor has no proof in the circular to the contrary. I made no such claim in England. I made no such claim elsewhere. I have, on the other hand, stood up at one of our own conventions, and defended the high quality of your linden honey when Mr. Pettit claimed superiority for ours.

I could not then, and I cannot now see, why linden trees growing on the south bank of the St. Clair river, should yield an inferior article in honey, than the same kind of trees growing on the north bank yield.

I could not then, and I cannot now see, why the honey from linden trees growing in Michigan, Ohio, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New York, should be inferior to honey from linden trees growing in Ontario.

"But how," the Doctor asks, "does this conduct compare with the language you use in your published interview with the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*? Did you not say to him, 'We think that all who visit our exhibit at the Colonies will admit that for color, flavor and specific gravity, we throw all other honeys in the shade?' Yes, we

did, and I am willing to father the statement and abide its consequences.

The Doctor will please bear in mind that in this we spoke of our exhibit as it stood. We spoke of our collection of honey, and of its quality as a sample of our general product, and not of the merits of linden alone. We took the position that we can beat the world (which, in the Doctor's opinion, means the United States) in the high grade of quality of our honey products; and we are prepared to maintain that position. We frankly admit that the linden and white clover honey of the northern States is as good as ours from the same sources, but there is a much larger occupied pasture field, and a much wider range in the honey-producing flora in the United States than there is in Canada. We get nothing but the best; you get much that is inferior, hence the Canadian honey is higher in its average grade, than the average grade of the American world.

The Doctor will hardly take the position that the honey of the Gulf States, and California honey is as good as that produced in Michigan, New York and Ohio. He will not deny that these and similarly situated States take as good honey as the world can produce. The high grade of these States is lowered by admixture with an inferior article from other parts of the Union, thereby lowering the average grade of the country. Our surplus comes almost entirely from the same sources, whence you derive your best, viz: white clover, linden and thistle. Our average being as good as your best samples, and your best being as good as the "world" can produce, it follows that our honey in its average quality is the best in the "world;" hence the honesty, the propriety, and the truth of our claim as set out in the words quoted from the "Bee-King Circular."

The only other world we had in view when this claim was made, was the British. We had seen the products of most of her Colonies on the ground: and they could not "hold a candle" to ours. We had seen and tasted English honey—so highly prized by her people. Its flavor is good, but its color is murky. We had not yet seen the famed Scottish heather honey, but through the kindness of our lamented brother, the late Mr. Raitt, we were afterwards supplied with a sample. In flavor, no other honey is like it, and no other honey can be compared with it. In color it is as dark as molasses.

When the Doctor next tackles me, let him stick to the text. It is upon the relative merits of linden honey the question hinges, and I nail him to that tree.

As to the great yield of our linden, I can only say, that the phenomena of observing honey-drops chasing one another down the cheeks of basswood bloom, is not observable around Owen Sound. It may be seen in the neighborhood of Beeton, for aught I know.

That superior "honey-belt" bothers the Doctor a good deal. I assure him that such there is; and that Ontario lies within it. It is not bounded by parallels of latitude; but isothermal lines, within which the mean temperature is much the same, and within which there grows and flourishes the best honey-producing flowers.

I am pleased to know that the circular has done the Doctor some good. It has added to his geographical knowledge, by furnishing him with the fact that Canada is larger than the United States; though I greatly fear it has disturbed him not a little to learn this. He "smokes" a smile over our alleged claim that Ontario lies within the United States; surely the Doctor knows this is a mistake. If he does not, let me assure him that the delegates, one and all, would rather be situated outside the "honey belt" than in the Union.

Thank you, Mr. Editor, for your indulgence, while I bow and retire from the field.

R. McKNIGHT.

Owen Sound, Ont., Feb. 17, 1889.

In order to close this controversy in this issue, we here give the reply of Dr. Mason as follows:

MR. EDITOR:—I am glad indeed that you have concluded to let our friend McKnight "kick" once more before he surrenders, for I felt pretty sure he would dodge the issue, and give me a "wild goose chase." I am in the same fix that he is, in regard to saying things that were better unsaid, and I thought after my article on page 103 had been sent to you, that perhaps I was a little too severe on him, but I had either to furnish the proof for my statements, or be willing to admit that Mr. McKnight was right when he said, "Dr. Mason misstates the facts," etc., and I think that it would have been better for him if he had kept in mind the fact that tangible and solid "corporosity" was of more account than "Bogles."

I am not aware of having accused Mr. McKnight of "misstating the facts," but he accused me of doing it, and "challenged" me "to name a solitary Canadian (apart from Mr. Pettit)" who has "sought to destroy confidence in the good qualities of American basswood honey, and claim superiority for their own;" and the main object I had in view in writing the article on page 103 of the BEE JOURNAL was, to furnish the evidence that he "challenged" me to produce; and if the "Bee-King Circular" produces such an "adding" effect upon a Yankee, what must have been its effect upon the tens of thousands of English, and others who read it?

But, as what is in the circular seems, according to Mr. McKnight, to have such an "adding" effect on him, perhaps evidence from the "Old Reliable," that never "addles" any one's brain, will convince him that he has "put his foot in it."

On page 694 of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1886, in speaking of the Ontario honey exhibit in London, it says: "It has come over in charge of a deputation.... who are.... on a visit to this country with a view to open the English market to the best honey in the world, as they constantly describe the article which they have on view."

To me, that alone is conclusive evidence that somebody besides Mr. Pettit did claim that Canadian honey was better than American, and one of the somebodies was Mr. McKnight.

Instead of being "wild with delight," as he says, since getting the circular, my heart is saddened at the spectacle he makes of himself in saying, "I made no such claim in England." I could furnish other evidence of the fact that "the deputation" did make the above claim, and will do so further on. When a person's brain gets in such condition that he can deliberately say that he does not care what a person "may say or think of him," as Mr. McKnight does about Mr. Pettit, on page 100, evidence is of no account to him, for as he says, such "evidence will not hold in court."

He credits me with stronger language than I had thought of, but I guess he had it about right when he makes me say, "Ha! my man, I have got you now."

I do not wonder that he "throws all the responsibility" on some one else (Mr. Pettit, for instance), and "ignores all responsibility" himself. Mr. Pettit never denied claiming superiority for Canadian honey, as I know of.

As I read along in Mr. McKnight's article, I am more and more amazed. He first denies all "responsibility of claiming superiority for Canadian linden honey," and then a few lines further on says, "Yes, we did say to the editor of the *Pall Mall Budget*.... 'We think that for color, flavor and specific gravity, we throw all other honeys in the shade,' and I am willing to father the statement, and abide its consequences." If "color, flavor and specific gravity" does not constitute quality, what does?

Now if I ever should make such contradictory statements, I believe I should be willing to admit that whoever exposed me was doing just what Mr. McKnight avers, when he says, "Verily, the Doctor is bringing things to an unpleasant crisis."

So the "responsibility" is not on Mr. Pettit, after all, for Mr. McKnight is its "father" instead of Mr. Pettit, as I had supposed. It was Mr. Pettit and the managing committee I began on, and Mr. McKnight stepped in between, and "takes the consequences."

Yes; I do "bear in mind" that it was the exhibit as a whole, "and not of the merits of linden alone," that was spoken of; but that only makes the matter worse for Mr. McKnight, who further says, "We took the position that we can beat the world.... in the high grade of quality of our honey product." Yes, sir; and then denied it! and "that's what's the matter!" The matter of quality has already been discussed, and Mr. McKnight has admitted the truthfulness of my statements, so I need say nothing on that score.

Yes, I *did* know that the claim that "Ontario lies within the United States" was a mistake, and I am not sure but that his statement, "that the delegates, one and all, would rather be situated outside the 'honey-belt' than in the Union," is also a mistake.

Since the appearance of my article that Mr. McKnight "goes for," I have received several letters about it, and one of them from Canada, starts out in this way: "Dr. A. B. Mason, Sir:—If you ever dare to set your foot in Canadian territory, we shall shake the fun out of you, as we do the honey out of the linden trees here," etc.

That looks rather threatening, but just bear in mind that I am not afraid of any, or all the Canadians that breathe, and if I am able, I will be at the International Convention at Brantford, and if I do not have a "glorious good time" with Messrs. McKnight, Pettit, Cornell, Jones, and a few score more of Canada's whole-souled beekeepers, it will not be my fault. Mrs. Mason says she is going with me to keep me straight. She is getting into quite a habit of doing that way, or I do not know what would become of me.

I want to assure Mr. Pettit, and all other Canadians, that I have none but the kindest feelings towards them, and that for Mr. McKnight "with all his faults, I love him still," and am still in "the field."

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for your kindness in allowing Mr. McKnight and myself this privilege.

A. B. MASON.

Auburndale, O., Feb. 21, 1889.

As further controversy would be useless, we close it while both disputants feel so kindly towards each other.

An "Explanation" Explained.

—Mr. Allen Pringle, of Selby, Ont., on Feb. 25, 1889, writes as follows:

"I rise to a point of order," to make a personal explanation in self-defense. The part of Mr. Holtermann's explanation on page 116, which refers to myself, is misleading; and without imputing any intention to misrepresent or mislead, I must set myself right in this matter.

In defending himself against Mr. McKnight's charge of suppressing my essay in his reports to the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and his own bee-paper, Mr. H., to show that there was no "personal pique," refers to the fact that he "paid my membership fee before the election of officers, so that I would be eligible for office." It is quite true that Mr. H. kindly advanced my fee without my knowledge, in my absence from the meeting; but it is also true that I had never been in the habit of sending my annual membership-fee until after the annual

meeting; and as soon as I became aware of what Mr. H. had done, I remitted the money to him, that he had, of his own accord, advanced, thanking him for his kindness.

Had I been on the lookout for office, my membership-fee, and very likely myself, would have been on hand; but believing in the principle that the office should seek the man, rather than the man the office, I have not only sought no offices in my life, but have almost invariably refused them when offered to me.

Of course I noticed the omission from Mr. Holtermann's reports to both bee-periodicals, of which Mr. McKnight complains, but thought little, and said nothing about it, knowing that the world would move along as usual, and supposing that Mr. H. knew the reason for such omission, whether anybody else did or not. I must now, however, accept his explanation of that omission.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Ont., Feb. 25, 1889.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

Getting the Honey Out of the Cappings.

Written for the American Bee Journal

Query 617.—What is the best and the most practical way of getting the honey out of the cappings from extracting-combs?—J. M.

Use a good strainer; then rinse and make vinegar.—A. J. COOK.

I use a large can with a perforated bottom, and allow the honey to drain.—J. P. H. BROWN.

An uncapping-can that will allow the honey to drain off below, is as good as anything that I know of.—EUGENE SECOR.

A gauze-wire receptacle in a warm room, and let them drain for several days.—J. M. HAMBROUGH.

By pressure, properly applied. Put them in a bag; use a clean, flat piece of board as a lever.—WILL M. BARNUM.

Drain out what you can handily get, then put the rest in a sun wax-extractor, and that will separate the wax from the honey perfectly.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Carefully melt them, let them cool, and then take the wax from the top. You can let the bees do it, if you are not afraid of robbing.—H. D. CUTTING.

Let it drain through a wire-cloth strainer, turning it or stirring it up a time or two.—M. MAHIN.

Heat gently, but enough to melt the wax in a solar wax-extractor or otherwise, and when cool, the wax may be lifted off the honey in a cake.—R. L. TAYLOR.

Drain them through a sieve or capping-can, in a warm place. What little remains may be washed out for vinegar purposes, or for metheglin.—DADANT & SON.

Let it drain on wire-cloth, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mesh to the inch. The little honey left after draining for 3 or 4 days, can be washed off and used for making vinegar.—P. L. VIALLO.

After letting them drain in the uncapping-can, take them out and place them in pans or other shallow vessels, and give the bees access to several of them at one time, at a period when there is little or no honey in the fields.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

Put the cappings in a solar wax-extractor, after allowing them to drain thoroughly. The honey drained out is of full quality—that from the wax-extractor is slightly injured in quality by the heat.—J. M. SHUCK.

I know of nothing better than the so-called solar wax-extractor. It brings out the honey in the nicest shape, of anything I know of.—J. E. POND.

Let the cappings drain well, and then wash and use the sweetened water for vinegar; or, after draining, set them where the bees can clean them up. There is no danger of exciting robbing, if placed some distance away from the apiary.—A. B. MASON.

I shave the caps off into a box with a wire-cloth bottom, set over a tin-pan made for the purpose. When all has drained off, or say the next morning, empty the cappings into the sun wax-extractor, and you will soon have a nice cake of wax, with the balance of the honey under it.—C. H. DIBBERN.

Most of it will drain out, with time enough, in any receptacle, with perforated or wire-cloth bottom; then soak and drain out the balance for vinegar or bee-food. It will drain faster, and perhaps without soaking, in a cool cellar.—C. C. MILLER.

When taking honey with the extractor, the cappings are dropped into a box supported by legs of convenient height. The uncapping-box has its bottom inclining downward toward a common centre, which is a square hole covered with tinned wire-cloth, with about 8 meshes to the inch. A large tin-pan catches the drip. After the cappings have been drained 24 hours or longer, they are put into the solar wax-extractor, which is adjusted nearly level, until all the honey is run out. It would wake up most bee-men to see how much honey I save in this way.—G. W. DEMAREE.

Stir the cappings up loosely, filling a common flat pan a little less than level full of them; put this pan into the oven, leaving the door partly open, so as to bring only a slow heat upon the top. By-and-by both honey and wax will be liquid. Set it away carefully, and let it cool. When the wax has hardened, and the honey is still

warm, tap the wax at the edge of the pan, tipping it up, and the warm honey will drain out clean. Now fill the pan with water, and thoroughly wash the wax from stickiness, and the honey that is obtained is first-class. The reader will see how solar heat can be used at the right time of year to accomplish the same result.—J. HEDDON.

If you should melt the cappings carefully in the stove oven, and let the melted matter cool, then take off the wax from the top, you will save both the honey and the wax.—THE EDITOR.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

MR. EUGENE SECOR.

We have great pleasure in presenting to our readers an engraving, showing the personal appearance, and a short biographical sketch, of America's "poet-laureate of apiculture"—Mr. Eugene Secor.

For the past ten years Mr. Secor has been writing poetry and prose for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and other periodicals, some of the best of the poetic effusions being "Lessons from the Ivy," the "Honey-Moon," the "Bees are Swarming," "Weighing the Baby," and "Gathering the Clan." The latter, descriptive of the Bee-Convention at Chicago in 1887, is so rich that we introduce it here as a sample:

At Chicago they met, a right jolly set,
On a soft, balmy day in November;
Such a "buzz" and "roar" I heard once before—
At an old cider-mill in September.

From the West and the East, to this saccharine feast,
Came the "workers" cheerfully "singing,"
And tho' each had a wish to "sip" from the dish,
But few were inclined to be "stinging."

They talked about bees—their legs and their knees—
Of the God-given nectar in flowers.
Of its value as food, of bare-headed brood,
And the late sad failure in showers.

Our "countryfied ways," the reporter says,
Betrayed the bent of our calling.
At this we're not mad, but exceedingly glad
That our looks far exceeded his scrawling.

Such a constant hum, without smoke or drum!
'Twas said each had a "bee in his bonnet";
But whether that's so, one thing I do know,
The "hive" had a Miller upon it.

The Mason bee took the Miller to Cook,
Who adjudged from its size and demeanor,
There was no need to tread on, nor even put a Hedd-on
As it lived on "Sassafras" Root—a gleaner.

For three days and nights, surprises, delights,
Made us happy as bees in sweet clover;
'Tis a bright Green spot, not soon forgot—
In memories Hutz, a rich trove.

'Twould fall me to tell, how the "honey-dew" fell
From many sweet lips, though human;
But I for one, when convention was done,
Went home from Chicago a New man.

Mr. Secor wrote the poems used at the Bee-Convention at Columbus, O., last fall, which were set to music by Dr. C. C. Miller for the occasion.

Mr. Secor is not only a poet, but he is also humorous writer. One of the

best articles in this line may be found in the BEE JOURNAL for 1883, page 259. It is an amusing sketch, portraying some of the troubles incident upon removing bees from cellars, and is written in the form of a "play"—a jubilee concert. If ever the reader feels blue, just read that and laugh—laugh until you feel "jolly." We laughed over it until we forgot all of our troubles, and all business besides. Try it, and see if it isn't an excellent antidote for the blues!

Then in 1886 he wrote an article of the same character (see page 728),



MR. EUGENE SECOR.

illustrating this maxim: "What's the use of having friends, if you don't use them?" by detailing his experiences with neighbor Smith, who "never buys anything he can borrow!"

The following was published in a local paper, last year, concerning Mr. Secor. That sheet purported to be "Columbia's Letters to Uncle Sam" about Forest City and its principal citizens:

Mr. Eugene Secor is a member of the Real Estate firm of Secor Brothers & Law, Forest City, Iowa, and a man whose history is prominently a part of Winnebago county since 1862. He is a native of Putnam county, N. Y., and was born May 13, 1841.

A boy of 16, he removed with his father to Shrub Oak, Westchester county, where, until the years of manhood were reached, he alternated between work on his father's farm and in pursuing his studies at the district school. His majority attained, he

came to Forest City, working during the summer at the mason's trade, and in the winter teaching school.

Ambitious for a classical education, he entered Cornell College, at Mt. Vernon, in 1864, but his brother David going to the war, it became incumbent on him to oversee his brother's official business, he being the Treasurer and Recorder of Winnebago county, consequently the subject of this mention was installed into the duties of Deputy County Treasurer and Recorder, also Deputy Postmaster of Forest City, which position he held for two years.

In 1867 he was Deputy Clerk of the District Court, and in 1868 he was elected District and Circuit Clerk, which office he held to the unbounded satisfaction of the people for three consecutive terms, being elected the last time without opposition. He was elected County Auditor in 1875, and chosen his own successor two years later without opposition.

He was chosen the first Mayor of Forest City, and re-elected three consecutive times. Retiring from the mayoralty, he was elected City Councilman, which position he still holds.

He is a member of the banking house of Secors, Law & Plummer, and the real estate firm of Secor Bros. & Law. In addition to these interests, he conducts a considerable farm, is an enthusiastic fruit-grower, and has the largest apiary in the county.

In 1866 Mr. Secor wedded Miss Millie Spencer, a lady of rare endowments, of Erie county, Ohio. Nine children have been the issue, 3 only surviving—Willard, Alson and Nina.

Mr. Secor takes a laudable interest in school matters. He is a generous supporter and active member of the M. E. church. In short, Mr. Secor is a shining example of western opportunities. He came to this section with good intentions as his only capital, and has by virtuous procedure in all the walks of life, accumulated a comfortable fortune, and firmly established himself in the esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens. Mr. Secor also honors the position of Trustee of Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, also Trustee of the State Agricultural College.

He has charge of one of the experiment stations established by the State Horticultural Society to determine the hardiness and desirableness of new fruits, trees and shrubs, before being recommended by the Society.

The various positions of honor that Mr. Secor adorns bespeak the exalted respect in which he is held throughout Iowa. He is Vice-President of the State Horticultural Society; and the President of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society, he being one of the organizers of the latter institution,

and the one to whom is due in largest measure the magnificent success that waited upon its initial Fair last season.

But Mr. Secor is not only a man of keen business perception, but is happily versatile in a literary direction, and by the fluency of his pen in both the spheres of prose and poetry, he has won no little distinction. Mr. Secor is firmly intrenched in Republican principles, and in a word, is a citizen sharing the good-will and esteem of all, and an invaluable member of society.

Mr. Secor is mentioned in the above as an enthusiastic fruit-grower, and as having "the largest apiary in the county." To know something of his apicultural experience then will be interesting to our readers. For their benefit we have gleaned the following:

His bee-keeping experience began in 1870, when he paid \$10.00 for a prime swarm of black bees, having paid \$3.00 to a carpenter, who was also a bee-keeper, for a frame hive to put them in. He knew nothing of bees, and could not tell a comb filled with sealed brood, from one with sealed honey. He secured a copy of "Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained," and soon became a subscriber to the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and *Gleanings*. All of the books on the subject published in America have been added since, and all the bee-periodicals.

Like all enthusiasts in the business, he tried to improve the frame-hives already in use, by one of his own invention, and various contrivances were experimented with. Owing to the various other duties that take so large a share of his time, he has now given up the idea that the bee-world will all go to smash if he does not put a new hive on the market, nor write a bee-book, nor start a new periodical.

The number of colonies of bees he has kept, has never exceeded 50. His aim has been to keep the number so small that he could manage them without hired help, and at the same time attend to more profitable business. But while bee-keeping has been pursued for the pleasure and education it afforded, he has always made it pay. When he says he has 50 colonies, he does not mean that he has that many hives *with bees in*, but expects every one to yield a profit. He endeavors to keep down increase, and keep up the production of the colonies.

He was a member of the late North American Bee-Keepers' Society, and Vice-President for Iowa for two years. He is a member of the Iowa State Bee-Keepers' Society, and only avoided being its President for the current year by a vigorous protest on his part.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONVENTIONS.

The New Constitution and By-Laws—Essays.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY DR. C. C. MILLER.

I am very glad that at this early day there is interest taken in what I hope may be a very profitable meeting at Brantford, Ont. On page 747 of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1888, Secretary Holtermann takes up with earnestness some points especially relating to the change in the Constitution, and does it so good-naturedly that it will be an easy matter to talk over any points on which we disagree.

I objected to the name, "The International American Bee-Association," because it seemed to me rather cumbersome, and although "American Bee-Society," as Mr. Newman says, "is short, expressive, and appropriate," still there may be other names equally good. Is the proposed striking out of the word "American," however, from the original name, that which will give us what we want?

"International Bee-Association" is a more comprehensive term than the original name, and is on that account objectionable. To have a society that takes in the United States and Canada sounds pretty big, but when you drop out the "American" and take in the whole world, is it not a misnomer? Mind you, I do not object to getting representatives from across the water—I admire the grit of Bro. Holtermann in thinking that a number of the leading men from other nations can be got to Brantford, and I should *very much* like to meet them there, but it would hardly be an International society unless we could confidentially count on their attending regularly our annual meetings. If we are to use the name "International" with no limiting word before it, the German, English and other societies may with greater reason use the same name, for they have larger meetings, and are, no doubt, just as willing to receive representatives from abroad.

I agree with Mr. H., that life members should equal annual members in privileges.

I do not know enough to say whether it is better to have "time and place" fixed at a previous meeting, or to leave the Executive to decide later. I suspect there are difficulties on both sides. The Executive Committee consists of the President and Secretary, and it is barely possible that there might be a

tie vote between the two, or that their decision might not be so generally satisfactory as that of a larger number, or that they might be a little tardy about making their decision. On the other hand, there are often reasons that come up later for a different decision, and it is not always easy to know a year ahead what is best. How would it do to have time and place fixed "at the previous annual meeting," and at the same time give the Executive Committee power to change within a given time, if they saw sufficient reason for doing so?

Article VIII of the By-Laws, Bro. H. says "is optional Dr. Miller is wrong; he says *is* to be formed." I have read that article over several times, and I cannot make out anything optional. It says, "A committee of five *shall* be elected, who *shall* have power to organize itself into a 'Honey Company,' etc." It seems to me that means the Honey Company *is* to be formed. If not, then all the articles seems to me optional, for none of them have anything stronger than "shall."

Essays at Conventions.

And now a word upon the remarks of Prof. Cook, on page 740 of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1888. He thinks that the Society will do the most good, among other things, by "securing essays for each meeting from representative men from all sections." From this expression, and more especially from expressions I have heard the Professor make publicly, I understand him to think that men who are not present should be represented by essays. It may not be entirely fair to reason from extremes, but there is a good bit of fairness in it, and we might try it. Suppose we have all the representations by essays. Then, as in the great majority of cases, the Professor would get more satisfaction from reading an essay himself, than from hearing it read by an ordinary reader, it would be better for him if all the essays were printed in a pamphlet together, and sent for him to read in the quiet of his pleasant home. In short, a bee-paper filled with good articles would make a good convention.

Commenting upon the Professor's remarks, the editor says: "We agree with the Professor in regard to obtaining essays. The other plan has been 'tried and found wanting.'" "Et tu, Brute!" Do you not recall several meetings we have had in Chicago, friend Newman, chock-full of interest, and those meetings free from essays? I fancy I see the astute editor of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, as he turns his head slightly to one side, looks through his glasses for a

second with a far-away look, then a half-meditative and wholly good-natured look steals over his face as he says, "True, O, King!"

Do not understand that I think essays have no value, but I think, all things considered, a convention is better without them.

Marengo, Ills.

[Now, Doctor, some may think you called the Editor a brute, if we leave it there. You should have explained your Latin exclamation: "And thou also, Brutus," or as we sometimes vulgarly say, "Ditto." Oh, yes, we remember well many conventions without essays which have passed off very nicely, but as a general rule we believe it to be far better to have a subject presented in an essay to which the writer has given some thought, and then have the impromptu discussion follow. We are glad to be able to disagree with Dr. Miller once in awhile just to give variety. Being so generally correct, we cannot often find a chance to do so. We usually have to reply, "True, O, King," and there leave the subject.—Ed.]

BEGINNING.

Some Helps to Beginners in Bee-Keeping.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY MRS. B. J. LIVINGSTON.

Once upon a time, a gentleman was getting up an excursion party to visit various places of interest. Having a friend experienced in such matters, he applied to him for advice. Among other things, his friend said, "Be sure to take one fool along, to ask the questions which the wise ones of your party will be ashamed to ask."

Now I supposed that would be my position when I joined the great excursion party into Bee-Territory; but lo, before I can take my pen to ask the question that is on its tip, some kind guide volunteers to tell me just what I wish to know. So, instead of asking questions, I wish to express my gratitude to those correspondents who describe the details of the business so patiently and persistently.

If I had written a few weeks ago, I should have given a half-dozen names that I thought specially helpful; but as I begin to understand more and more what the experienced are talking about, each article is helpful. I hope that they will not get wearied, but con-

tinue to hold out the light towards beginners.

I suppose that I am not the only one who, in bee matters, resembles the bride in pie matters, viz: She wished to surprise her husband with a pie of her own make. She read in her cookbook, "to make a crust, take equal parts of lard or butter, and water, and mix to a stiff paste." The poor thing mixed the lard and water a long time, without favorable results. The directions never mentioned the *flour*. Fellow bee-keepers, that is why I like your articles so well—you do not forget the flour!

In my article on page 54, I spoke of my friend's apiary, using, in my haste, an unfortunate word. When I think of her beautiful home, with the many frame hives clustered cosily here and there among the shrubbery, with all her surroundings, showing such a highly cultivated mind, one word should have been left out. What I really meant was, that I saw no costly honey-houses, bee-cellars, extractors, or the thousand and one things considered as great conveniences to those handling bees.

When her sections run out unexpectedly, I think she uses little boxes from the stores, sawing out places for a piece of glass, and fastening the glass in place with paste and strips of cloth or paper, so that she can see what the pets are doing. She uses a great many newspapers—I must see her again and ask her about that; perhaps it is to shut in the bees, and keep the propolis from the outside of the boxes.

Center Chain, Minn.

MICHIGAN.

Newaygo County Farmers' and Bee-Keepers' Convention.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY GEO. E. HILTON.

The Newaygo County Farmers' and Bee-Keepers' Association met on Feb. 19, 1889, at Fremont, Mich. The attendance being small in the morning, the meeting was called to order at 1 p.m., by Vice-President T. H. Stuart, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hodges. Then followed the Secretary's report of last meeting, which was adopted as read.

An essay on "Profitable Winter Care of Stock," by Wilkes Stuart, was thoroughly practical, and we can point to no better proof of his assertion than his own stock. Rev. Mr. Tower made some able and humane remarks on the above subject, having spent a portion of his life on the farm.

Mr. Macumber did not think it paid to feed stock or raise calves for sale in this latitude, and thought the straw and grain fed would bring more than the stock.

"Creamery," by T. H. Stuart, introduced statistics showing that butter was produced on the improved plans for less than five cents per pound, and that the cost of the plant was but \$3,000.

Mr. Olney was very much in favor of a creamery, but would like to know how much he was to receive for his cream.

Wilkes Stuart was in favor of a co-operative creamery, and thought the farming community should establish the plant and reap the benefits.

He had used the Fairlamb can and liked it better because there was more work about it; he was satisfied that all the cream would rise in six hours.

Mr. Walker's experience corroborated with Mr. Stuart's, but he usually let the cream stand 24 hours. Mr. Walker attributed the scarcity of butter at the present time to the fact that previous to the passage of the oleomargarine law compelling the manufacturer to brand and sell it as such instead of butter, the country was flooded with the spurious article to such an extent that butter was forced down to 10 cents per pound, and cows were sold for beef, and had not yet been replaced.

"The Relation of Agriculture and the Agriculturist to the Rest of Mankind," was treated by Thos. J. G. Bolt, who championed the cause of the farmer in words as strong as the English vocabulary contains. A much better understanding of the object of his paper was attained through a very interesting exchange of thought between himself and the Rev. Mr. Hodges, who plainly showed that he knew what farm life was in Canada.

"Little Things in Housekeeping," by Mrs. P. W. Hall, was full of good suggestions, and well received.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

"In the Adaptability of Bee-Keeping for the Farm," by A. M. Alton, he did not advise fruit-raising in connection with bee-keeping, as the busy seasons both came at the same time.

Mr. Gould asked if that did not hold good in general farming.

Mr. Alton concluded that in either case the profits secured through the bees more than balanced the losses.

Mrs. Mallory thought the women could care for the bees.

Mr. Alton recommended farming less land, and keeping some bees.

Mr. Boyd said the profits from 40 colonies of bees doubled the profits on 40 acres of land.

Mr. Horton advised bee-keeping mixed with farming.

"Advice to Young Farmers' Wives," could not have come from a better source than Mrs. M. W. Scott; it was a most excellent essay.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon a vote being taken, it was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Hesperia, Mich.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, M. W. Scott; 1st Vice-President, T. H. Stuart, 2nd Vice-President, M. Thompson; 3rd Vice-President, Geo. W. Ada; Secretary and Treasurer, Geo. E. Hilton. Committee on Resolutions, M. W. Scott, Wilkes Stuart, and Wm. E. Gould.

"Practical Butter-Making," by Mrs. S. V. Walker, brought out many useful suggestions.

Mr. Walker said he knew butter would attract the odor of vegetables through a brick wall.

The general verdict was that the cold setting of milk was preferable, both as a saving of labor and an increase of profits.

Mr. Wm. E. Gould then read the following essay on,

The Use of the Extractor—Extracted Honey.

Prof. A. J. Cook has well said, "Since Mr. Langstroth gave the movable-frame hive to the world, the apiarist has not been so deeply indebted to any one inventor as to him who gave us the honey-extractor, Herr von Hruschka, of Germany."

The latter half of the Nineteenth Century will be styled by future bee-keepers, "The golden era of apiculture." But a few years ago bee-keeping was in a barbaric state; following the invention of the movable-frame hive by Rev. L. L. Langstroth in 1852, came many inventions of apiarian implements—some poor, but many of great value—which have made bee-keeping what it is to-day.

One of Michigan's leading bee-men has said, that bee-keeping has reached its maximum greatness, or something to that effect. I differ from him—our chosen pursuit is yet in its infancy—it will not have reached its maximum greatness until on every hill and by every stream is heard the low murmuring of the busy bee, and no flower shall bloom in vain, or "waste its fragrance on the desert air."

Extracted honey should never be called "strained honey." In the good (?) old days of the box-hive, when a colony had died, or had been brimstoned, the comb containing honey and

pollen was cut out of the hive, mashed up, and then strained. Honey secured in that way is strained honey, not extracted. Of necessity much pollen remained in the honey, often imparting a flavor not to be desired. Extracted honey is thrown out by a machine called "the extractor," and never contains pollen. Pollen in unripe honey, or, more properly, honey that is extracted before the bees have capped it, will ferment, thus giving the honey a disagreeable taste.

The extractor is simply a large can containing a basket made of coarse wire-cloth. The basket can be revolved, and will contain two or more frames of comb. Before the combs are placed in the extractor, the capplings are shaved off with a knife made especially for the purpose; then the basket is revolved. The centrifugal force thus created causes the honey in the outer side of the combs to fly out against the inside of the can, then, by reversing the combs, the honey may be thrown out of the other side.

Advantages Derived from the Use of the Extractor.

The use of the extractor enables us to secure double the amount of honey, and the combs after being extracted from, may be placed back in the hive to be filled again, thus saving the bees a great deal of work just at the time when every minute counts. Nor is this all. Every bee-keeper knows that large quantities of honey are consumed by the bees when secreting wax for comb-building; now if empty combs are placed in the hive when needed, the honey that would have been used for making wax, is stored along with the surplus honey, thus increasing the product of the colony for the season.

Honey must be coming in in large quantities to insure comb-building, hence in a poor season the bees are very slow to occupy the sections. In such a season a fair crop of extracted honey may be secured when the comb honey crop would be a failure.

When we do not desire any more bees, increase may be prevented much more readily by the use of the extractor than by any other method.

As extracted honey can be produced in larger quantities than comb honey, and can be produced cheaper, hence it finds a more ready sale among the laboring classes generally than comb honey. Extracted honey is rapidly gaining in favor, more than one-half of the honey produced in the United States being extracted.

At the end of the season all unfinished sections may be extracted, and thus what honey is in them is secured in salable shape. The sections, after having been cleaned up by the bees, should be stored away where they will

be safe from dust. The next season they will be valuable to entice the bees into the crates of sections.

By using comb-baskets, broken pieces of comb and pieces of drone-comb, that have been cut out of the hive, may be extracted, and the comb used for starters.

By proper arrangements, extracted honey may be secured in the spring and late in the fall, and comb honey in the summer; thus we would secure the best honey in the sections, and the poorer as extracted. By this system more honey is secured, for as I have before said, extracted honey may be secured when the bees will not work in the sections.

The mistake made by amateur bee-keepers is in extracting so closely that the bees starve. When the honey has been taken too closely, the bees should be fed.

Often in the spring the bees fill the brood-combs so full of honey that the queen has not room to lay, thus the value of the colony for the season is impaired; now if the bee-keeper has his eye on affairs, he may throw the honey out of all the combs but the two outer ones, and thus give the queen a chance to lay; but a watchful eye must be kept, for the bees are apt to do the same thing over again. This extracting usually stimulates the bees.

In the fall, all objectionable honey may be taken from the brood-nest, thus giving more surety of safe wintering.

After being thrown out, the honey should be passed through a cloth to free it from little particles of wax—I purposely refrain from the use of the word "strainer." In cold weather it is well to heat the honey, as it flows more readily when warm. In warm weather, if the honey is allowed to stand over night, the wax will rise to the top, when the clear honey may be drawn from the bottom.

Honey should not be extracted until capped; if extracted before, it is thin and watery, and is said to be "green" or "unripe." Green honey is not very palatable, and most of what is thought to be adulterated honey is this very same green honey. With sugar at 8 to 9 cents per pound, and honey at 10 cents, and dealer's commission 20 per cent, what profit could there be in adulterating with sugar?

"But," says one, "how about feeding cheap sugar to bees, and letting them store it in the surplus apartments?" That amount will be used, no matter what the source of the food. Now where is the profit?

The best proof of the purity of honey is its candying. When the temperature goes below 80° Fahr., honey will candy. Remember that sugar syrup

will not do that, no matter whether the bees or the dealers store it.

To bring candied honey back to a liquid state, slowly heat it; then, if sealed when hot, it will not candy again. When heating, it must not reach the boiling point—a much lower temperature is sufficient.

Extracted honey sells better if put up in small packages. I prefer the pint and quart fruit-cans, as these are of use to the purchaser after being emptied.

People often ask me where honey should be kept, and invariably they think that a cool, damp place is the best. Honey should always be kept in a warm, dry place. It does not matter what kind of honey, for no honey should be kept in a cool, damp room.

WM. E. GOULD.

After the adoption of several resolutions, and the appointment of a creamery committee, the convention adjourned. GEO. E. HILTON, Sec.

GOOD HONEY YEAR.

The Prospects for the Season of 1889.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY HENRY K. STALEY.

The low center of atmosphere which has been moving eastward struck us quite heavily here to-day, and with its round about-to-the-west motion, brought up some warm air from the sunny South, producing effects that could not be said to be far from those of summer.

Consequently to-day, Feb. 16, colonies are having a busy time in carrying out defunct bees, and rendering the bottom-boards of their hives free from the excrementitious ordure that congregated itself there during the winter months. But maugre all this seemingly unpleasant household work, they are having a pleasant time in exercising their wings—but not their stings; at least not on my cutis as in days gone by, and limbs.

It was a pleasant sight for me to stand and watch them in the act of circumvolation, after being confined so many days to winter quarters. As I stood and looked at my bees cutting divers circles, and ellipses, I could not help thinking about the Minor Planets—of which there are some three hundred—how that, in all their deviating ambits, and their great eccentricity of orbits, they neither touch nor collide with one another; when, if it were desired to lift one out with its orbit, all the rest would have to come along, so numerous intersected are their ambits.

Therefore, I say, the apicultural vista that met my gaze seemed to me to resemble the astronomical sight that presents itself to the eye of the astronomer peering through the immense telescope; and, I can say that it was as pleasant to me as the aforesaid sight of the astronomer is to the man of stars and planets, albeit a modicum of each is visible to the eye at once.

The winter here has been a mild one, and so far all my colonies are alive. Of course we do not know what is coming.

Heaven from all creatures hides the book of fate,
All but the page prescribed, their present state,

and if their is not a killing frost, accompanied with baleful effects to the bees, between this time and spring, I think that we can safely say, this year is going to be a boomer for apiarists in general. Therefore, since we have this hope, let those apiarists who have met disaster after disaster, awake themselves from out their lethargic state of misfortune, and press forward to the goal of success, rendering everything in readiness to catch the "honey showers," and be found not napping when the huge gates of nature, that guard the honey canal, shall drop open, and let in the "little busy bee."

Pleasant Ridge, Ohio.

NEBRASKA.

The Report of the State Bee-Keepers' Convention.

From the Nebraska State Journal.

The tenth annual meeting of the Nebraska State Bee-Keepers' Association began in the Botanical Lecture Room of the University on Jan. 9, at Lincoln, Nebr., at 3:30 p.m., with President M. L. Trester, of Lincoln, in the chair.

Nothing of special importance beyond perfecting the preliminary organization was done in the afternoon meeting, but a little discussion was had on granulated honey.

In the evening the Association listened to a report on glucose, and an essay on wintering bees, by R. V. Muir. A general discussion followed, participated in by nearly all the bee-keepers present, and covering the entire subject.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. A. Tower, for his able work in conducting the bee-column in the *Western Resources* during the past year.

An adjournment was taken at 10:40 p.m. until 9 o'clock the next morning.

SECOND DAY.

The convention began with an essay treating on the question, "Does it pay to plant for honey?" by A. C. Tyrrel,

of Madison. Mr. Tyrrel advised planting clover for early forage, and melissa for surplus honey in the fall.

Mr. Johnson agreed with the essayist in recommending planting for honey, and advised adding alfalfa to the list of profitable plants.

Mr. Tower suggested that buckwheat ought to be added.

Mr. Muir thought it hardly advisable to plant for honey except in the case of melissa.

Mr. Hardy favored all of the plants mentioned, but thought that none of them would pay to plant for honey alone.

Mr. E. T. Abbott had visited Colorado, and was much pleased with alfalfa. He said that it produces excellent honey, and makes good food for stock.

Mr. Whitcomb recommended alfalfa, if planted where it could be irrigated, or in soil that is not deep to water. Other suggestions were also made by various members, the discussion being very interesting and profitable.

A report of the work of the season was made by Mr. R. R. Ryan, of Bradshaw. He reported that he increased his apiary by division, and complained of imperfect queens. The subject of rearing prolific queens was discussed, a majority favoring rearing queens under the swarming impulse, and dividing the colony when it swarms.

The address of the President, Mr. M. L. Trester, was given in the afternoon. Many valuable suggestions were made, the most important being that pertaining to a better law in regard to foul brood.

An essay was read by Mrs. J. N. Heater, of Columbus, on "How to produce the most honey in marketable shape." As this is the object of all the bee-keepers, the essay was discussed at length. All were of the opinion that it is necessary in this region to keep bees breeding at stated times, in order to have a large number of workers to gather the nectar when the flowers that produce honey are in bloom.

The remainder of the afternoon was taken up with a discussion of the subjects, "How much foundation should be used, if any?" and "How to dispose of honey to the retail trade?"

The evening session was well attended, and the meeting proved to be a very interesting one. The principal feature was an essay by Rev. Emerson T. Abbott, of St. Joseph, Mo., on "*Bees and Horticulture*."

Mr. Abbott explained that when he prepared the essay he did so with the understanding that the Nebraska State Horticultural Society would meet in Lincoln at the same time and place, and in view of this fact, the subject,

"Bees and Horticulture," had been decided upon.

When the essay was nearly completed, he learned that the Horticultural Society would not meet with the bee-keepers, but, as the subject was a fitting one, he did not change it.

The great mutual benefit to be derived by the bee-keepers and the fruit growers acting in harmony was commented upon.

At the conclusion of the address there was considerable discussion on the subject, after which the meeting adjourned until 9 a.m. the next day.

THIRD DAY.

The morning session was devoted to routine business, and an inspection of the buildings of the University, under the guidance of Prof. Bessey.

Among the principal business done was the report of the committee appointed to consider the recommendations of the President. The request that the Constitution be so amended as to make the tenure of office one year instead of two, was reported upon adversely, and the Association agreed with the committee. In the matter of foul brood, it was decided to appoint a committee of investigation, consisting of Messrs. Johnson, Whitcomb and Burnett.

Mr. E. Whitcomb was recommended to the State Board of Agriculture as a satisfactory man for the place of Superintendent of the bee and honey exhibit at the next State Fair. Messrs. Whitcomb, Burnett and Tower were appointed as a committee to revise the Premium List for the State Fair, and endeavor to get more and larger premiums.

The convention then adjourned to meet in Lincoln, on the second Wednesday in January, 1890.

J. N. HEATER, Sec.

Convention Notices.

There will be a meeting of the Susquehanna County Bee-Keepers' Association at the Court House in Montrose, Pa., on Saturday, May 4, 1889, at 10 a.m. H. M. SEELEY, Sec.

The Cedar Valley Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next semi-annual meeting at Waterloo, Iowa, on March 13 and 14, 1889. All interested are invited. J. J. OWENS, Sec.

The Des Moines County, Iowa, Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual convention in the Court House at Burlington, on April 23, 1889, at 10 a.m. All bee-keepers are invited. JOHN NAU, Sec.

The 11th annual session of the Texas State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the apiary of W. R. Graham, of Greenville, Hunt Co., Tex., on May 1 and 2, 1889. All bee-keepers are invited. The last meeting was held here last May, and was the best ever held. So we look forward to a good time next May. A cordial welcome and hospitality will be tendered to all who come. G. A. WILSON, Sec.

Please to get your Neighbor, who keeps bees, to also take the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. It is now so CHEAP that no one can afford to do without it.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

1889. Time and Place of Meeting.

Mar. 13, 14.—Cedar Valley, at Waterloo, Iowa, J. J. OWENS, Sec., Waterloo, Iowa.

Mar. 30.—Agency, at Agency, Mo. T. S. SMITH, Sec., Agency, Mo.

Apr. 23.—Des Moines County, at Burlington, Iowa. JOHN NAU, Sec., Middletown, Iowa.

May 1, 2.—Texas State, at Greenville, Tex. G. A. WILSON, Sec., McKinney, Tex.

May 4.—Susquehanna County, at Montrose, Pa. H. M. SEELEY, Sec., Harford, Pa.

May 21.—Northern Illinois, at Pecatonica, Ill. D. A. FULLER, Sec., Cherry Valley, Ills.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—ED.

SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

Fine Flights Every Week.—R.

R. Ryan, Bradshaw, Neb., on Feb. 23, 1889, says:

The bees on the summer stands have had fine flights every week this winter. This is the first cold spell we have had to speak of, two days, and it was 14° below zero last night. We think that the prospects are good for next season. Bees had plenty of honey in the fall, and the winter has been so mild. If the spring does not keep too cold and late, it will be all right.

Separators a Nuisance.—H. C.

Gifford, Morris, Ills., on Feb. 26, says:

I have 28 colonies of bees, and work them for comb honey. I do not use any separators. Last year I used the 2-inch sections, and they would average over a pound each. I had 1,750 pounds of honey in one-pound sections, and not more than 40 of them were joined to each other, so I consider separators a nuisance, for the bees will fasten the combs to separators sometimes. I have sold nearly all of my honey at home for 18 cents; but it is a waste to sell 17, 18 or 20 ounces for a pound, so I am thinking of using the narrow sections.

Experience in 1888.—Thos. O.

Hines, Anamosa, Iowa, on Feb. 23, 1889, writes:

My experience with bees in the winter and summer of 1888 has a dark and bright side. In the spring I took from their winter quarters 21 colonies, strong in numbers, but short in stores, so I had to feed. The spring being rough and cold, they dwindled away until I had 4 colonies left. I felt very much discouraged, but not enough so as to give up the business, and as my bees were blacks, I thought it a good

time to change to Italians. I sent for 4 pounds of bees and 4 tested queens to start with, which I received on May 12, when it was so cold that I had to transfer them in the house. There were but few days that bees could fly until May 20, and everything in the business looked dark; but the honey-flow came, and that with a rush, and found me with my "hat" wrong side-up to catch it—I had no bees! But now comes the bright side: The flow continued without cessation until Oct. 20, when my 4 pounds of bees had increased to 10 colonies, with stores sufficient for winter. I also got 300 pounds of comb honey in sections. My bees, from all appearances, are wintering well, and everything indicates a good time for the honey-producer in this section of country the coming season.

Bees Look Fat and Clean.—

Geo. H. Kirkpatrick, New Paris, Ohio, on Feb. 25, 1889, writes:

As to how the bees have wintered in the new cellar described on page 89, I would say, that up to the present date I never saw bees winter better. To-day I examined each colony, and so far as I am able to judge, they are all in fine condition. They look as fat and clean as they do in June during a white clover honey-flow. The temperature I have kept from the time I put them in, from 42° to 44° up to Feb. 1, and since then, from 40° to 42°. At present I have no fears but what I will put each colony out alive in the spring, that I put in on Nov. 25, 1888. So far my neighbors' bees have wintered well, with the exceptions of a few who were so very cruel as to let their bees starve.

Hive-Spaces.—A correspondent at

Dutton, Mich., on Feb. 16, 1889, asks the following:

1. Will Dr. Tinker please inform me through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, what is the proper thickness of the wood-zinc honey-board? 2. How much room shall I leave between the brood-frames and the extracting-frames. 3. Is it desirable to make the extracting-frames the same size as the brood-frames? 4. Is it proper to hang the extracting frames crosswise of the brood-frames? X. Y. Z.

Dr. Tinker's answers to the above questions are as follows:

1. The slats I use in my honey-boards are three-sixteenths of an inch thick, and plump $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch wide. The saw-kerf in the edges is made with a No. 24 gauge saw, that is made

heavier at the center than at the rim, to make it run steady. With this thin saw there is so little waste of the wood in the edges of the slats, that if the slats at the sides are let into a rabbet in the side pieces of the frame and nailed, there is no need of a tin strip across the center to stiffen the slats. The frame is a full $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick.

2. Three-eighths of an inch.

3. Yes; and I prefer to have the extracting super made exactly the same as the brood-chamber, so that they may be used for the one purpose or the other, as may be desired. The bee-space is preferred at the top of the frames, and the entrance of the hive should be made in the bottom-board.

4. Yes; but if the brood-chamber and extracting super are made alike, and the frames are all the same size, it is preferable to storify the supers so that all the frames will be parallel.

Creating a Honey Market.—J. W. Collins, Clarksville, Mo., on Feb. 22, 1889, says:

I now have 58 colonies, 40 of my own and 18 on shares. I want to try and create a honey market at home. My bees are wintering well on the summer stands. They had a flight yesterday, but are housed to-day, as it is cold.

Bees are Very Quiet.—Joseph Beath, Corning, Iowa, on Feb. 20, says:

On March 15, 1888, I took out my bees and gave them a flight, having 40 colonies. I then put them back into the cellar again until April 13, and found 4 dead, 3 of which were killed by mice, and 2 died afterward, leaving me 34 colonies, from which I got 1,730 pounds of extracted honey. I put 34 colonies into the cellar on Dec. 10, 1888, and they have been very still so far.

White Clover all Right.—Mr. Christian Schrier, Peotone, Ills., on Feb. 23, 1889, writes:

The ground has been so dry all winter that the clover has not heaved out yet, but next month can do it. My bees looked well last spring, and I hoped for a big yield of honey, but the white clover failed. I have three acres of alfalfa clover, and I never saw my bees on it. The bees worked on the Alsike clover well, but the Alsike being mixed with the timothy, I cut it for hay while in bloom. I made my increase by dividing, and bought the queens. By Aug. 1, the hives were full of bees, but no honey. I had five

acres of buckwheat, and when it began to bloom, the hungry bees worked on it in the morning while wet with dew, and in the evening; so they soon filled their hives with honey, and had some surplus, which I sold at 18 cents a pound, keeping enough for family use. The bees are in the cellar, and are doing well, there being very few dead ones. I raised each hive an inch from its bottom-board.

Wintering in Chaff-Hives.—I. C. Horton, Muskegon, Mich., on Feb. 23, 1889, says:

I have 77 colonies of bees on the summer stands, in the Hilton Improved chaff-hives. They are in splendid condition.

Bait for Bees.—Mr. Jos. Dowell, Hicksville, O., on Feb. 25, 1889, says:

I would say in regard to Mr. Becker's question on page 108, that if he will put one or two drops of the oil of sweet anise in his bee-bait, when he goes to Lake Huron, I think that the bees will come back again.

Good Fall Honey-Flow.—H. S. Bowman, Maquoketa, Iowa, on Feb. 26, 1889, says:

Last season was hard on bees, and bee-keepers in this locality, especially in the spring, and what has always been our harvest; but the fall flowers came to the rescue, and sent the bees into the cellar well supplied with the nicest fall honey I ever saw.

Gathering Honey.—Wm. Richter, San Bernardino, Calif., on Feb. 16, 1889, says:

After having had very dry weather with plenty of wind and sand storms, rain set in to-day, so our prospects for a honey crop are good. Bees gathered a little honey from white thornbush and alfalfaree. Dark sage will be in blossom in about three weeks.

Sub-Earth Ventilation, etc.—N. N. Betsinger, Marcellus, N. Y., on Feb. 19, 1889, writes:

If I am not mistaken, two years ago Mr. P. H. Elwood said at the New York convention that his cellar ventilators to admit cold air were entirely closed during the cold weather. If this is so, I would like to know of what use (aside from drainage) that immense sewer pipe is. On page 99 he

seems to have changed his views. How can he harmonize this with the denunciation given two years ago on "scientific ventilation?" He then stated that 50 colonies of bees, in repositories, did not require any more air than one person!

Dr. Mason is to be congratulated on his article on basswood honey on page 103. In order to better inform our Canadian cousins, let me say that we have one supply dealer in New York State who cuts enough sections every season to hold more than all the honey produced in the Dominion of Canada. That supply dealer is only one of the many, but he is the largest in our State.

Bees Wintering Nicely.—A. F. Wheeler, Rossville, Iowa, on Feb. 21, 1889, writes:

I commenced the season of 1888 with 13 colonies, increased them to 31, by natural swarming, and 7 or 8 swarms went to the woods. I took 1,000 lbs. of surplus honey in one-pound sections, about half of which was white clover, the balance being light amber. I lost 2 colonies by the worms, or by my neglect of them in the harvest. I put 29 colonies into winter quarters, 25 packed in chaff, and 4 in the cellar. They seem to be wintering nicely, the thermometer registering from 41° to 45° in the cellar. The coldest that it has been out-of-doors is 12° below zero. Ten cents per pound in trade is all that I can get for honey at the grocery store, and I won't take it; 12½ cents is the least that I have sold any for.

Good Results in 1888.—John N. Eubank, Slater, Mo., on Feb. 23, 1889, writes:

I commenced the season of 1888 with 22 colonies, which I increased to 35, by natural swarming. I obtained about 1,900 pounds of honey, principally white clover, and about 400 pounds from red clover. My bees worked on red clover more the past season than they ever did before; but I do not like the honey, as it is dark, and stronger than fall honey. Considering the season, I think that my bees did well. Bees have wintered well in this locality so far. To-day was the coldest of the season—7° below zero. My bees are wintering on the summer stands, have had good flights every few days this winter, and appear to be in a healthy condition. My bees made the best record of any in this locality the past season, as I obtained over 85 pounds of surplus per colony, spring count.



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Please write American Bee Journal on the envelope when writing to this office. Several of our letters have already gone to another firm (a commission house), causing vexatious delay and trouble.

Honey.—We have for sale a quantity of Extracted Honey in kegs holding about 230 pounds each, which we are selling, free on board the cars, at 8 cents per pound for Amber and 9 cents per pound for White.

In order to pay you for getting new subscribers to send with your renewal, we make you this offer. For each yearly subscriber, with \$1.00, you may order 25 cents worth of any books or supplies that we have for sale—as a premium.

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500 Labels.....	2.00	3.00	3.50
1,000 Labels.....	3.00	4.00	5.00

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Alfalfa Clover.—For cultivation of this honey-plant, see page 245, of 1888.—We supply the seed at the following prices:—Per lb., 22c.; per peck, \$3.00; per half-bushel, \$5.50; per bushel of 60 lb., \$10.00. If wanted by mail, add 10 cents per pound for bag and postage.

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Send Us the Names of bee-keepers in your neighborhood who should take and read the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and we will send them a sample copy. In this way we may obtain many regular subscribers, for thousands have never seen a copy, or even know of its existence. This is one way to help the cause along.

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International Bee-Convention.—The Pamphlet Report of the Columbus, Ohio, Bee-Convention can be obtained at this office, by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents. This pamphlet contains the new bee-songs and words, as well as a portrait of the President. Bound up with the history of the International Society, and a full report of the Detroit, Indianapolis and Chicago conventions, for 50 cents, postpaid.

Clover Seeds.—We are selling *Alsike Clover Seed* at the following prices: \$8.00 per bushel; \$2.25 per peck; 25 cents per lb. *White Clover Seed*: \$10.00 per bushel; \$2.75 per peck; 30 cents per lb. *Mellilot or Sweet Clover Seed*: \$6.00 per bushel; \$1.75 per peck; 20 cents per lb.—by express or freight.

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HONEY.—White comb, 10@11½c.; dark, 9½@8c. White extracted, 9½c.; light amber, 5½@6c.; dark amber, 4½@5½c.
 BEESWAX.—18@22c.
 Jan. 25. O. B. SMITH & CO., 423 Front St.

BOSTON.

HONEY.—We quote: Best white clover 1-pounds, 18@19c.; best 2-lbs., 16@17c. Sales quite brisk, and market nearly cleaned up of all undesirable honey.
 Feb. 28. BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

DETROIT.

HONEY.—Best white 1-lbs., 16@17c. Sales slow. Extracted, 9@10c.
 BEESWAX.—22@23c.
 Feb. 11. M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—We quote: White clover 1-lbs., 16@17c.; 2-lbs., 14@15c. Good dark 1-lbs., 13@14c.; 2-lbs., 12@13c. Buckwheat 1-lbs., 13@14c.; 2-lbs., 11@11½c. Extracted, 6½@8½c., depending upon quality and style of package. Market dull and stock sells slowly.
 BEESWAX.—22c.
 Jan. 24. S. T. FISH & CO., 189 S. Water St.

ST. LOUIS.

HONEY.—Choice white clover comb, 13@15c.; fair 11@12c.; dark, 8@10c. Extracted, dark, in barrels, 5@5½c.; choice, 5½@6c.; in cans, 6@7½c. Market is quiet but steady.
 BEESWAX.—20c. for prime.
 Jan. 17. D. G. TUTT & CO., Commercial St.

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—Best 1-lbs., 17@18c. Extracted, 7@9c. for best quality, according to body, flavor and style of package. Trade is limited to local consumption. Off grades of comb honey are slow at lower figures than given above. But few will buy dark comb.
 BEESWAX.—22c.
 Jan. 17. R. A. BURNETT, 161 South Water St.

MILWAUKEE.

HONEY.—We quote: Fancy white 1-lbs., 17@18c.; 2-lbs., 15@16c. Good dark 1-lbs., 15@16c.; 2-lbs., 14@15c.; fair 1-lbs., 12@14c. Extracted, white, in kegs and ½-barrels, 8½@9c.; amber in same, 7½@8c.; in pails and tin, white, 9½@10c.; in barrels and ½-barrels, dark, 5½@6c. Market dull. The very best sells slowly, and inferior qualities are neglected very much. Damaged, broken and leaky comb honey not wanted.
 BEESWAX.—22@23c.
 Jan. 10. A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St.

CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—We quote extracted at 5@8c. per lb. Best white comb honey, 12@16c. Demand is only moderate. No overstocking of the market.
 BEESWAX.—Demand is good—20@22c. per lb. for good to choice yellow on arrival.
 Feb. 21. C. F. MUTH & SON, Freeman & Central Av.

KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—White 1-lbs., 16c.; fall, 14c.; California 1-lbs., 16c.; white 2-lbs., 14c.; extra 2-lbs., 13c. Extracted, white California, 8c.; amber, 7c. Market dull.
 BEESWAX.—20@22c.
 Jan. 22. CLEMONS, CLOON & CO., cor 4th & Walnut

KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—Choice 1-pounds, 15@16c.; dark 1-lbs., 12c.; 2-lbs., 14c.; dark, 11c. White extracted in 60-lb. cans, 8c.; amber, 7c.; in barrels and kegs, 5@8c. Demand good, prices steady, and stock large.
 BEESWAX.—None in market.
 Jan. 4. HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

DENVER.

HONEY.—White, in 1-lb. sections, 15@16c. Extracted, 9@10c.
 BEESWAX.—20c.
 Jan. 1. J. M. CLARK & CO., 1409 Fifteenth St.

NEW YORK.

HONEY.—We quote: Fancy white 1-lbs., 14@15c.; 2-lbs., 12c. Fair white 1-lbs., 14@15c.; 2-lbs., 10 to 11c. Buckwheat 1-lbs., 10@11c.; 2-lbs., 9@10c. Extracted, white, 7½@8c.; dark buckwheat, 6@6½c. which is in good demand. Market dull, except for extracted buckwheat; for all other kinds it is quiet, owing to unreasonable weather, we believe.
 HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,
 28 & 30 W. Broadway, near Duane St.
 Jan. 10.

SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—We quote: Extracted, white, 6½ cents; amber, 6c. Comb, white 1-lbs., 13@14c.; 2-lbs., 13c.; amber, 10@11c. Demand is of a jobbing nature, and arrivals are small.
 BEESWAX.—19@20c.
 SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER,
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